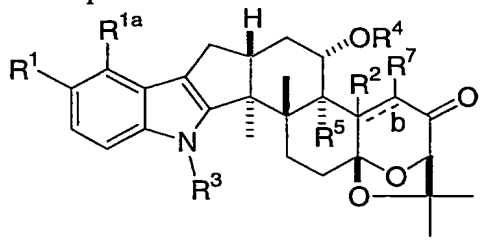
WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A compound of structural formula I:



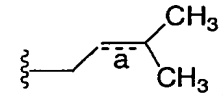
I

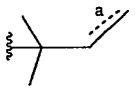
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, enantiomer, diastereomer, tautomer or mixture thereof, wherein,

R^1 and R^{1a} independently are:

(a) H,

(b) C_{1-6} alkyl

(c)  , or

(d)  ;

R^2 is:

(a) CO_2C_{1-6}alkyl,

(b) H,

(c) OH, or

(d) C_{1-6}alkyl,

when a double bond is not present at b;

R^3 is:

(a) H,

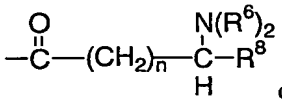
(b) $(C=O)OC_{1-6}$alkyl or

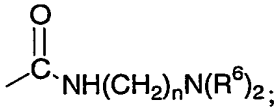
(c) C_{1-6}alkyl optionally substituted with OH, $N(R^6)_2$, or CO_2R^6;

R^4 is

(a) H, provided that R^3 is not H,

(b) C_{1-6}alkyl optionally substituted with OH, $N(R^6)_2$, or CO_2R^6 or

(c)  or

(d)  ;

R^5 is:

(a) H,

(b) OH, or

(c) OC_{1-6}alkyl;

R^6 is:

(a) H, or

(b) C_{1-6}alkyl;

R^7 is H, or C_{1-6}alkyl optionally substituted with OH, $N(R^6)_2$, or CO_2R^6;

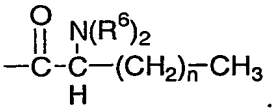
R^8 is H, C_{1-6}alkyl, CH_2-phenyl, CH_2-hydroxyphenyl, CH_2-indolyl, CH_2-imidazolyl, CH_2OR^6, $CH(OR^6)CH_3$, $(CH_2)_nC(O)NR^6$, $(CH_2)_nCO_2R^6$, $(CH_2)_nSR^6$, $(CH_2)_n(N^+R^6)_3$,

n is 0-4, and

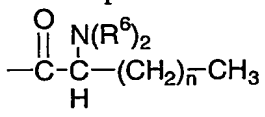
--- is a double bond optionally and independently present at a or b.

2. A compound according to claim 1 wherein R^1, R^{1a} and R^3 are hydrogen.

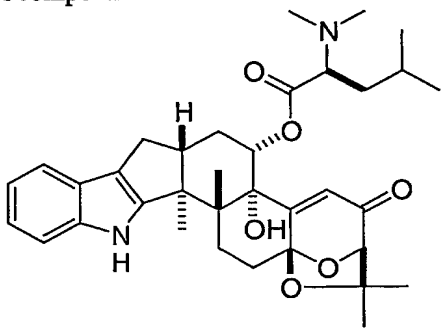
3. A compound according to claim 1 wherein R^4 is



4. A compound according to claim 1 wherein R^2 and R^7 are hydrogen and R^4 is

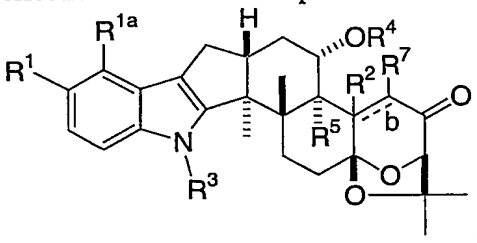


5. A compound which is :

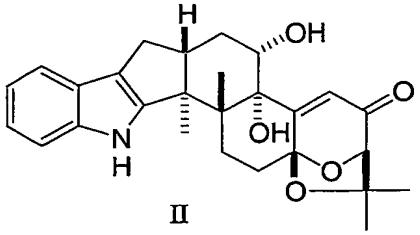


or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, enantiomer, diastereomer, tautomer or mixture thereof.

6. A method for treating ocular hypertension or glaucoma which comprises administering to a patient in need of such treatment a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of Formula I or II:



I ,



II

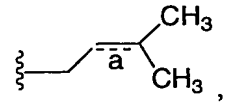
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, enantiomer, diastereomer, tautomer or mixture thereof:

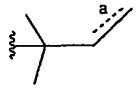
wherein,

R^1 and R^{1a} independently are:

(a) H,

(b) C_{1-6} alkyl

(c)  , or

(d)  ;

R^2 is:

(a) CO_2C_{1-6}alkyl,

(b) H,

(c) OH, or

(d) C_{1-6}alkyl,

when a double bond is not present at b;

R^3 is:

(a) H,

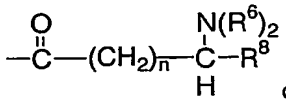
(b) $(C=O)OC_{1-6}$alkyl or

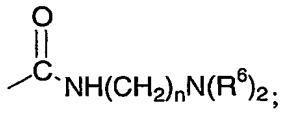
(c) C_{1-6}alkyl optionally substituted with OH, $N(R^6)_2$, or CO_2R^6;

R^4 is

(a) H,

(b) C_{1-6}alkyl optionally substituted with OH, $N(R^6)_2$, or CO_2R^6 or

(c)  or

(d)  ;

R^5 is:

(a) H,

(b) OH, or
(c) OC_{1-6}alkyl;

R^6 is:

(a) H, or
(b) C_{1-6}alkyl;

R^7 is H, or C_{1-6}alkyl optionally substituted with OH, $N(R^6)_2$, or CO_2R^6;

R^8 is H, C_{1-6}alkyl, CH_2-phenyl, CH_2-hydroxyphenyl, CH_2-indolyl, CH_2-imidazolyl, CH_2OR^6, $CH(OR^6)CH_3$, $(CH_2)_nC(O)NR^6$, $(CH_2)_nCO_2R^6$, $(CH_2)_nSR^6$, $(CH_2)_n(N^+R^6)_3$,

n is 0-4 and

---- is a double bond optionally and independently present at a or b.

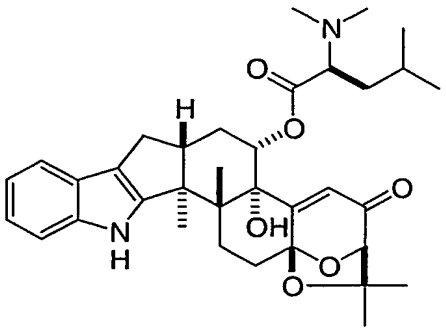
7. The method according to Claim 6 wherein the compound of formula I is applied as a topical formulation in the form of a solution or suspension.

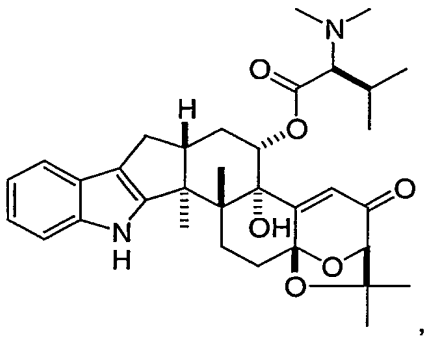
8. The method of Claim 7, which comprises administering a second active ingredient, concurrently or consecutively, wherein the second active ingredient is a hypotensive agent selected from a β-adrenergic blocking agent, adrenergic agonist, a parasympathomimetic agent, a carbonic anhydrase inhibitor, an EP4 agonist and a prostaglandin or a prostaglandin derivative.

9. The method according to claim 8 wherein the β-adrenergic blocking agent is timolol, levobunolol, carteolol, optipranolol, metapranolol or betaxolol; the parasympathomimetic agent is pilocarpine, carbachol, or phospholine iodide; adrenergic agonist is iopidine, brimonidine, epinephrine, or dipivephrin, the carbonic anhydrase inhibitor is dorzolamide, acetazolamide, metazolamide or brinzolamide; the prostaglandin is latanoprost or rescula, and the prostaglandin derivative is a hypotensive lipid derived from PGF2α prostaglandins.

10. A method according to claim 7 in which the topical formulation contains xanthan gum or gellan gum.

11. A method according to claim 6 wherein the compound of formula I is:



,


,

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, enantiomer, diastereomer, tautomer or mixture thereof.

12. A method for treating macular edema, macular degeneration, or for providing a neuroprotective effect, which comprises administering to a patient in need of such treatment a pharmaceutically effective amount of a compound as recited in claim 6.

13. The method according to Claim 12 wherein the compound of formula I is applied as a topical formulation in the form of a solution or suspension.

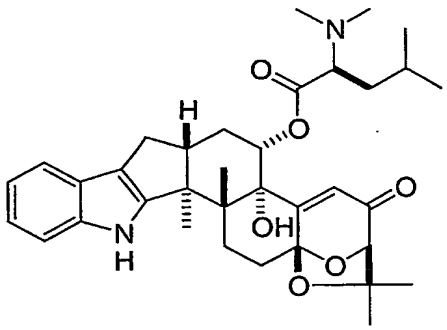
14. The method of Claim 13, which comprises administering a second active ingredient, concurrently or consecutively, wherein the second active ingredient is a hypotensive agent selected from a β-adrenergic blocking agent, adrenergic agonist, a parasympathomimetic agent, a carbonic anhydrase inhibitor, an EP4 agonist and a prostaglandin or a prostaglandin derivative.

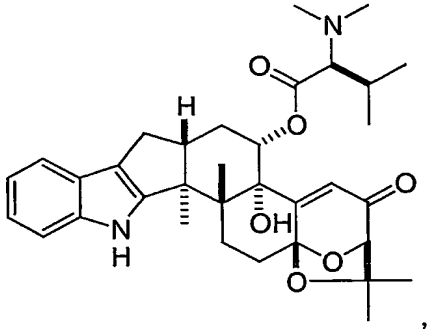
15. The method according to claim 14 wherein the β-adrenergic blocking agent is timolol, levobunolol, carteolol, optipranolol, metapranolol or betaxolol; the parasympathomimetic agent is pilocarpine, carbachol, or phospholine

iodide; adrenergic agonist is iopidine, brimonidine, epinephrine, or dipivephrin, the carbonic anhydrase inhibitor is dorzolamide, acetazolamide, metazolamide or brinzolamide; the prostaglandin is latanoprost or rescula, and the prostaglandin derivative is a hypotensive lipid derived from PGF2α prostaglandins.

16. A method according to claim 12 in which the topical formulation contains xanthan gum or gellan gum.

17. A method according to claim 13 wherein the compound of formula I is:



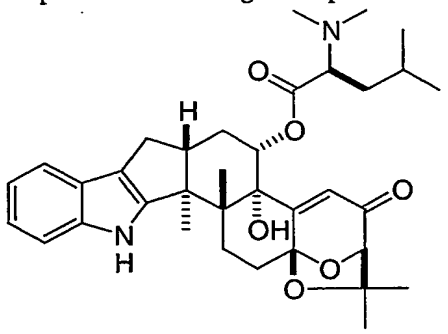
,


,

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, enantiomer, diastereomer, tautomer or mixture thereof.

18. A composition comprising a compound of formula I as recited in claim 1 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

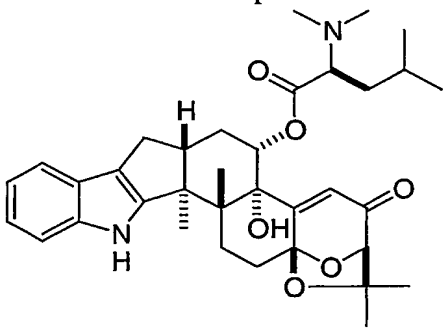
19. A process for making a compound of the formula Ia:



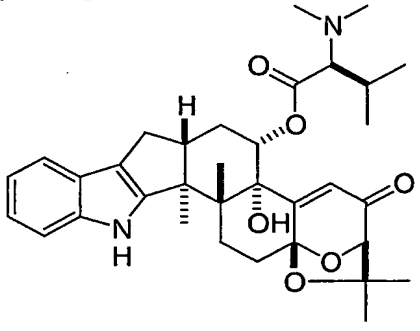
Ia

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, enantiomer, diastereomer, tautomer or mixture thereof, using microbiological strain *Aspergillus alliaceus* (ATCC No. 16891 or PTA-4210), *Aspergillus nomius (ATCC No. 15546 or PTA-4211)*, or *Aspergillus nomius (ATCC No. PTA-4212).*

20. A process for making a compound of the formula Ia or Ib:



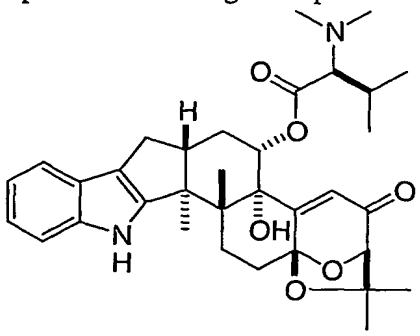
Ia



Ib

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, enantiomer, diastereomer, tautomer or mixture thereof, using microbiological strain *Aspergillus nomius* ATCC No. 15546 (PTA-4211).

21. A process for making a compound of the formula Ib:



Ib

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, enantiomer, diastereomer, tautomer or mixture thereof, using microbiological strain *Aspergillus nomius* ATCC No. PTA-4212.